

ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

F- 301

D/ORPA-77-338/A
29 March 1977

STATINTL

MEMORANDUM FOR:



Coordinator for Academic Relations/DDI

SUBJECT : Exchanges of Scholars Between Universities and
the Agency

REFERENCE : DDI/CAR Memo, dtd 10 Mar 77, same subject

1. There is a major question to be answered before addressing the substance of reference; that is, whether a publicized program of exchange will better serve the Agency's interests than will quiet exploitation of existing contacts. The latter are fairly wide spread, at least in the political disciplines and, I believe, in others. There have, of course, been a number of Agency persons who have spent sabbatical years at one or another university or research institution. There would not need to be a special program to continue that activity.

2. My inclination is to increase the quantity and breadth of Agency-academia exchanges, but to do so gradually. A substantial number of people from academia have consulted and lectured here in recent years and I have seen no decline in the numbers of those willing to do so. A publicized program would give those opposed to Agency-academic relations a large target to shoot at. My fellow academic relations officers may have views for or against this caution. The following paragraphs are written on the assumption that a program-and-panel approach has been decided by the DDI.

*but not
us for a
change!*

3. The issue of an advisory panel to assist in processing persons willing to work in this Agency on a rotational tour is worth exploring further. Such a panel could help to mitigate suspicions. (It also could draw unwelcome amounts of attention.) The panel would, however, have little to contribute in processing applicants from CIA going out for sabbaticals. It could not judge their competence since most do not have published track records. In any event, the selection of sabbatical candidates should be the Agency's responsibility, carried out through established procedures.

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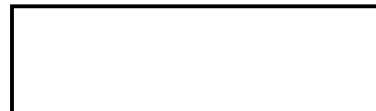
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4. If the directorate is going to try an "institutionalized and publicized program" to provide sabbaticals between it and leading universities, I submit that extensive soundings be made of potential panel members before announcing a program, in order to assure that a sufficient number are willing to be publically identified with the CIA in this fashion. This is an essential first step. Otherwise, we could find ourselves making a great announcement and having no followthrough.

5. I also urge that any such program not be restricted to the "ten leading international studies centers." There would always be dispute as to which those 10 are, and there are many more than ten institutions from which people might come or to which they might go. Past experience has shown that there are a number of institutions that are prepared to have CIA people on their campuses or in their facilities as long as the Agency pays.

6. Finally, special care would need to be taken in developing an advisory panel in order to get people who are competent and willing to help us, rather than those who might see such service primarily as a means of advancing their own reputation or position.

STATINTL



Deputy Director
Regional & Political Analysis

cc: each Academic Relations officer